

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for updating a plurality of anti-virus programs comprising the
2 steps of:
3 initiating an update of a plurality of anti-virus programs;
4 determining information to be updated;
5 transferring a plurality of updates; and
6 installing the plurality of updates.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 periodically initiating an update.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining step comprises the step
2 of:
3 determining information to update based on information relating to the
4 information to be updated and on information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a
3 modification date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 6. The method of claim 5, wherein the information relating to the plurality of
2 updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a modification date,
3 file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 7. The method of claim 4, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates
3 comprises script or data files including information indicating the information to
4 be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the transferring step comprises the step
2 of:
3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein the standard protocol comprises
2 hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the installing step comprises at least one
2 of:

3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 11. The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 12. The method of claim 11, wherein the logging in step comprises at least
2 one of:
3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 13. The method of claim 4, wherein the transferring step comprises the step
2 of:
3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 14. The method of claim 13, wherein the installing step comprises at least one
2 of:

3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 15. The method of claim 14, further comprising the step of:
2 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 16. The method of claim 15, wherein the logging in step comprises at least
2 one of:
3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the standard protocol comprises
2 hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the information relating to the plurality
2 of updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a modification
3 date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates

3 comprises script or data files including information indicating the information to
4 be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 20. The method of claim 17, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 periodically initiating an update.

1 21. The method of claim 17, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.

1 22. A system for updating a plurality of anti-virus programs comprising:
2 a processor operable to execute computer program instructions;
3 a memory operable to store computer program instructions executable
4 by the processor; and
5 computer program instructions stored in the memory and executable to
6 perform the steps of:
7 initiating an update of a plurality of anti-virus programs;
8 determining information to be updated;
9 transferring a plurality of updates; and
10 installing the plurality of updates.

1 23. The system of claim 22, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:

2 periodically initiating an update.

1 24. The system of claim 22, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.

1 25. The system of claim 22, wherein the determining step comprises the step
2 of:
3 determining information to update based on information relating to the
4 information to be updated and on information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 26. The system of claim 25, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a
3 modification date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 27. The system of claim 26, wherein the information relating to the plurality
2 of updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a modification
3 date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 28. The system of claim 25, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates

3 comprises script or data files including information indicating the information to
4 be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 29. The system of claim 22, wherein the transferring step comprises the step
2 of:

3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 30. The system of claim 29, wherein the standard protocol comprises
2 hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 31. The system of claim 22, wherein the installing step comprises at least one
2 of:

3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 32. The system of claim 22, further comprising computer program
2 instructions to perform the step of:

3 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 33. The system of claim 32, wherein the logging in step comprises at least one
2 of:
3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 34. The system of claim 25, wherein the transferring step comprises the step
2 of:
3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 35. The system of claim 35, wherein the installing step comprises at least one
2 of:
3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 36. The system of claim 35, further comprising computer program
2 instructions to perform the step of:
3 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 37. The system of claim 36, wherein the logging in step comprises at least one
2 of:

3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 38. The system of claim 37, wherein the standard protocol comprises
2 hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 39. The system of claim 38, wherein the information relating to the plurality
2 of updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation date, a modification
3 date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 40. The system of claim 38, wherein the information relating to the
2 information to be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates
3 comprises script or data files including information indicating the information to
4 be updated and the information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 41. The system of claim 38, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 periodically initiating an update.

1 42. The system of claim 38, wherein the initiating step comprises the step of:
2 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.

1 43. A computer program product for updating a plurality of anti-virus
2 programs, comprising:
3 a computer readable medium;
4 computer program instructions, recorded on the computer readable
5 medium, executable by a processor, for performing the steps of
6 initiating an update of a plurality of anti-virus programs;
7 determining information to be updated;
8 transferring a plurality of updates; and
9 installing the plurality of updates.

1 44. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the initiating step
2 comprises the step of:
3 periodically initiating an update.

1 45. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the initiating step
2 comprises the step of:
3 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.

1 46. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the determining step
2 comprises the step of:

3 determining information to update based on information relating to the
4 information to be updated and on information relating to the plurality of updates.

1 47. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the information
2 relating to the information to be updated comprises at least one of a version, a
3 creation date, a modification date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 48. The computer program product of claim 47, wherein the information
2 relating to the plurality of updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation
3 date, a modification date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 49. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the information
2 relating to the information to be updated and the information relating to the
3 plurality of updates comprises script or data files including information
4 indicating the information to be updated and the information relating to the
5 plurality of updates.

1 50. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the transferring step
2 comprises the step of:

3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 51. The computer program product of claim 50, wherein the standard
2 protocol comprises hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 52. The computer program product of claim 43, wherein the installing step
2 comprises at least one of:
3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 53. The computer program product of claim 43, further comprising computer
2 program instructions for performing the step of:
3 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 54. The computer program product of claim 53, wherein the logging in step
2 comprises at least one of:
3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 55. The computer program product of claim 46, wherein the transferring step
2 comprises the step of:

3 transferring the update using a standard, non-standard, or proprietary
4 protocol.

1 56. The computer program product of claim 55, wherein the installing step
2 comprises at least one of:

3 decompressing a compressed update, decrypting an encrypted update,
4 and copying a file included in an update to a directory.

1 57. The computer program product of claim 56, further comprising computer
2 program instructions for performing the step of:

3 logging in to a server containing an update.

1 58. The computer program product of claim 57, wherein the logging in step
2 comprises at least one of:

3 transmitting a username and password, filling and submitting an online
4 form, accessing a cookie, and redirecting to another location.

1 59. The computer program product of claim 58, wherein the standard
2 protocol comprises hypertext transfer protocol or file transfer protocol.

1 60. The computer program product of claim 59, wherein the information
2 relating to the plurality of updates comprises at least one of a version, a creation
3 date, a modification date, file sizes, and presence or absence of files.

1 61. The computer program product of claim 59, wherein the information
2 relating to the information to be updated and the information relating to the
3 plurality of updates comprises script or data files including information
4 indicating the information to be updated and the information relating to the
5 plurality of updates.

1 62. The computer program product of claim 59, wherein the initiating step
2 comprises the step of:
3 periodically initiating an update.

1 63. The computer program product of claim 59, wherein the initiating step
2 comprises the step of:
3 initiating an update based on at least one predefined condition.